

Whereas, public funding of improvements to the railroad infrastructure, together with completion of the scheduled improvements to Interstate Route 81, would provide an example to the nation of the significant public benefits resulting from the use of public funds in providing a viable rail alternative for the transportation of interstate freight; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the United States Congress be urged to appropriate funds for improvement of rail infrastructure in the Interstate Route 81 corridor. Such improvement shall ensure that the railroad that parallels Interstate Route 81 in Virginia provides a viable alternative to the use of Interstate Route 81 for the movement of interstate freight traffic; and, be it

Resolved further, That the General Assembly of Virginia support the conclusions of the study conducted by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and commend it to the United States Congress for consideration; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the Sense of the General Assembly in this matter.

POM-18. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to the 1946 Rescission Act; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4002

Whereas, The Philippine Islands was a territory of the United States until July 4, 1946, and the United States had control over Philippine nationals and its internal affairs. The Philippines Commonwealth had no function in matters of foreign affairs and could not declare war nor surrender its forces; and

Whereas, On July 26, 1941, U.S. President Roosevelt issued a Military Order and invoked his powers under Section 2(a)(12) of the Philippine Independence Act (P.L. No. 77-127 Section 10(a)) to "call and order into the service of the Armed Forces of the United States . . . all of the organized military forces of the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines"; and

Whereas, World War II is remembered as The Good War that President Roosevelt claimed to have defended the great human freedoms against the encroachment and attack of the dark forces of despotism; and

Whereas, Filipino soldiers fought during World War II under the American flag and under the direction and control of United States military leaders pursuant to President Roosevelt's July 1941 Military Order; and

Whereas, Shortly after the war in 1946, the U.S. Congress passed the Rescission Act which specifically mandates that services rendered by Filipino World War II veterans ". . . shall not be deemed to have been active military, naval, or air service for the purposes of any law of the United States conferring rights, privileges or benefits . . ."; and

Whereas, The legislative rider appended to the 1946 Rescission Act denies U.S. military status and benefits to those veterans who fought under the command of officers of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Philippines; and

Whereas, The significant and adverse impact of the 1946 Rescission Act is its unjust discrimination against Filipino soldiers of

World War II by denying them eligibility for equal benefits administered by the department of veterans affairs; and

Whereas, Filipinos are the only national group singled out for denial of full U.S. veterans status while the soldiers of more than sixty-six other U.S. allied countries, who were similarly inducted into the service of the armed forces of the United States during World War II, were granted full U.S. veterans status; and

Whereas, The United States government has yet to fully restore the rights, privileges, and benefits guaranteed, then taken away from Filipino soldiers of WWII; and

Whereas, The gallantry, loyalty, and sacrifices of Filipino veterans of WWII, who fought for freedom and democracy in the Armed Forces of the United States, deserve recognition and their honor and dignity restored; and

Whereas, There is no pending legislation in the U.S. Congress that will restore full United States veterans status to Filipino WWII veterans: Now, therefore

Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the President and Congress of the United States during the First Session of the 106th Congress take action necessary to amend the 1946 Rescission Act and honor our country's moral obligation to restore these Filipino veterans full United States veterans status with the military benefits that they deserve; be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 756. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for electricity produced from biomass, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 757. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 504 West Hamilton Street in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the "Edward N. Cahn Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to establish an off-budget lockbox to strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

S. 133

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

CLELAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the exclusion for employer-provided educational assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 152

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire) was added as a cosponsor of S. 152, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the 60-month limit and increase the income limitation on the student loan interest deduction.

S. 170

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 170, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

S. 177

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 177, a bill to amend the provisions of title 39, United States Code, relating to the manner in which pay policies and schedules and fringe benefit programs for postmasters are established.

S. 219

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 219, a bill to suspend for two years the certification procedures under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in order to foster greater multilateral cooperation in international counterterrorism programs, and for other purposes.

S. 311

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 311, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for partnerships in character education.

S. 326

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 326, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 15 percent reduction in payment rates under the prospective payment system for home health services and to permanently increase payments for such services that are furnished in rural areas.

S. 388

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 388, a bill to protect the energy and security of the United States and decrease America's dependency on foreign oil sources to 50 percent by the year 2011 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies; improve environmental quality by reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; mitigate the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and the elderly; and for other purposes.

S. 389

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 389, a bill to protect the energy and security of the United States and decrease America's dependency on foreign oil sources to 50 percent by the year 2011 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies; improve environmental quality by reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; mitigate the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and the elderly; and for other purposes.

S. 392

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 392, a bill to grant a Federal Charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, and for other purposes.

S. 440

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 440, a bill to establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase bullet-resistant equipment for use by law enforcement departments.

S. 441

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 441, a bill to provide Capitol-flown flags to the families of law enforcement officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty.

S. 452

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 452, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that the Secretary of Health and Human Services provides appropriate guidance to physicians, providers of services, and ambulance

providers that are attempting to properly submit claims under the medicare program to ensure that the Secretary does not target inadvertent billing errors.

S. 461

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 461, a bill to support educational partnerships, focusing on mathematics, science, and technology, between institutions of higher education and elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

S. 497

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) were added as cosponsors of S. 497, a bill to express the sense of Congress that the Department of Defense should field currently available weapons, other technologies, tactics and operational concepts that provide suitable alternatives to anti-personnel mines and mixed anti-tank mine systems and that the United States should end its use of such mines and join the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines as soon as possible, to expand support for mine action programs including mine victim assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 590

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) were added as cosponsors of S. 590, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit for health insurance costs, and for other purposes.

S. 655

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 655, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt from income taxation income derived from natural resources-related activity by a member of an Indian tribe directly or through a qualified Indian entity.

S. 656

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 656, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain nationals of Liberia to that of lawful permanent residence.

S. 660

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 660, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the issuance of tax-exempt bonds by Indian tribal governments, and for other purposes.

S. 707

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 707, a bill to provide grants for special environmental assistance for the regulation of communities and habitat ("SEARCH grants") to small communities.

S. 718

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) were added as cosponsors of S. 718, a bill to direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology to establish a program to support research and training in methods of detecting the use of performance-enhancing drugs by athletes, and for other purposes.

S. 721

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 721, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a Nurse Corps and recruitment and retention strategies to address the nursing shortage, and for other purposes.

S. 742

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 742, a bill to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 66

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 66, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the release of twenty-four United States military personnel currently being detained by the People's Republic of China.

S. CON. RES. 14

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 14, a concurrent resolution recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of it.

S. CON. RES. 24

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 24, a concurrent resolution expressing support for a National Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) Awareness Month.

S. CON. RES. 28

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 28, a concurrent resolution calling for a

United States effort to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the enclaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 756. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for electricity produced from biomass, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce important tax legislation to help address the current energy shortage in our country. The legislation, entitled the "Growing Renewable Energy for Emerging Needs [GREEN] Act," will extend and expand the tax credit for homegrown, clean-burning, renewable biomass.

As many of my colleagues know, I authorized the section 45 credit in the Senate and it was included in the Energy Policy Act of 1992. However, the tax credit for the production of energy from biomass is set to expire on January 1, 2002. For this reason, I am introducing legislation to extend and expand the credit to help sustain the many benefits derived from biomass.

Last month, I introduced S. 530 to extend the wind energy portion of section 45, which has been extremely successful. The purpose of today's bill is to extend and expand the biomass portion of section 45 to include technologies such as biomass combustion and cofiring biomass with coal-fired facilities. Formerly, section 45 only allowed the use of closed-loop biomass.

The clean, controlled combustion of biomass, which consists of sawdust, tree trimmings, agricultural byproducts, and untreated construction debris, is another proven, effective technology that currently generates numerous pollution avoidance and waste management public benefits across the nation.

In addition, biomass energy displaces more polluting forms of energy generation while decreasing our dependence on foreign oil. Our national security is currently threatened by a heavy reliance on foreign oil.

Biomass can also produce enormous economic benefits for rural America. Rural economies will grow because of the development of a local industry to convert biomass to electricity. Moreover, studies show that biomass crops could produce between \$2 to \$5 billion in additional farm income.

In order to retain the environmental, waste management, and the rural employment benefits that we could receive from the existing "open-loop" biomass facilities, my bill rewrites section 45 to allow tax credits for clean combustion of wood waste and similar residues in these unique facilities.

Importantly, we have also ensured that the definition of qualifying bio-

mass materials is limited to organic, nonhazardous materials that are clearly proven to burn cleanly without any pollution risk. Also, to allay any concern that biomass plants might burn paper and thus possibly jeopardize the amount of paper that is available to be recycled, I have specifically excluded paper that is commonly recycled from the list of materials that would qualify for the credit.

I believe this bill provides a common sense combination of current and new technologies to help maintain the economic, environmental and waste management benefits derived from biomass power. The current electricity shortage in California and the soaring prices of home heating fuel and natural gas this winter are reasons enough to support and accelerate this renewable energy.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 756

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Growing Renewable Energy for Emerging Needs (GREEN) Act".

SEC. 2. CREDIT FOR ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM BIOMASS.

(a) EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF PLACED-IN-SERVICE RULES.—Paragraph (3) of section 45(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

“(B) CLOSED-LOOP BIOMASS FACILITY.—In the case of a facility using closed-loop biomass to produce electricity, the term ‘qualified facility’ means any facility—

“(i) owned by the taxpayer which is originally placed in service after December 31, 1992, and before January 1, 2007, or

“(ii) of the taxpayer which is originally placed in service before December 31, 1992, and modified to use closed-loop biomass to co-fire with coal before January 1, 2007.”.

(2) by striking “2002” in subparagraph (C) and inserting “2007”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(D) BIOMASS FACILITIES.—In the case of a facility using biomass (other than closed-loop biomass) to produce electricity, the term ‘qualified facility’ means any facility owned by the taxpayer which is originally placed in service before January 1, 2007.

“(E) SPECIAL RULES.—In the case of a qualified facility described in subparagraph (B)(i) or (D)—

“(i) the 10-year period referred to in subsection (a) shall be treated as beginning no earlier than the date of the enactment of this paragraph, and

“(ii) subsection (b)(3) shall not apply to any such facility originally placed in service before January 1, 1997.”.

(b) BIOMASS FACILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining qualified energy resources) is amended—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (B),

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting “, and”, and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) biomass (other than closed-loop biomass).”.

(2) BIOMASS DEFINED.—Section 45(c) of such Code (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) BIOMASS.—The term ‘biomass’ means any solid, nonhazardous, cellulosic waste material which is segregated from other waste materials and which is derived from—

“(A) any of the following forest-related resources: mill residues, precommercial thinnings, slash, and brush, but not including old-growth timber,

“(B) solid wood waste materials, including waste pallets, crates, dunnage, manufacturing and construction wood wastes (other than pressure-treated, chemically-treated, or painted wood wastes), and landscape or right-of-way tree trimmings, but not including municipal solid waste (garbage), gas derived from the biodegradation of solid waste, or paper that is commonly recycled, or

“(C) agriculture sources, including orchard tree crops, vineyard, grain, legumes, sugar, and other crop by-products or residues.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to electricity produced after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 757. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 504 West Hamilton Street in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the “Edward N. Cahn Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to name the Federal building and courthouse in Allentown, Pennsylvania for retired Judge Edward N. Cahn. Judge Cahn, a native Pennsylvanian and resident of the Lehigh Valley, served with distinction on the Federal bench for 23 years, including 5 years as chief judge.

Judge Cahn attended school at Lehigh University and graduated magna cum laude in 1955. He went on to receive a law degree from Yale University in 1958 and began practicing law in Allentown in 1959. His accomplishments on the basketball court as a 1,000 point scorer for Lehigh University translated into his later success in another court, when President Ford nominated him to be a federal judge in 1974.

Judge Cahn was instrumental in helping build Allentown's new courthouse, which opened in 1995. This beautiful structure is a symbol for the resurgence of the Lehigh Valley, and it is only fitting that the courthouse should bear the name of an individual who did so much to help his community. His dedication to his work and fairness were well recognized throughout Pennsylvania and it is my hope that future jurists who serve in this courthouse will uphold those same ideals.